

Attorney Docket No. 19463-0002
Application No. 10/689,716

REMARKS

Following the present Amendment, forty-nine (49) total claims with six (6) independent claims (claims 1, 9, 18, 24, 41, and 48) are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1 and 9 are amended and new claims 29-49 are added. This Preliminary Amendment clarifies the subject matter of the present invention. This Preliminary Amendment is fully supported by the originally filed specification, and no new subject matter is being added.

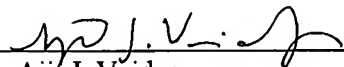
In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully request the entering of this Amendment and that the Examiner considers the Amendment when the application is examined on its merits. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representatives to expedite prosecution. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1349.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 18, 2004

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